AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN – EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH PART B: PROGRAMMATIC, FISCAL, AND REPORTING ASSURANCES

d. Within 60 days from publication of this application, the SEA will submit a plan to HomelessED@ed.gov that contains the following information:

i. For **ARP Homeless I**:

1. How the SEA has used or will use up to 25 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for State-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels, including support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming in 2021. This must include how the SEA has supported LEAs to plan for and provide wrap-around services, in collaboration with State and local agencies for immediate needs this spring 2021, and how it will support LEAs for school year 2021-2022. This should include the extent to which the SEA has or plans to build capacity in LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past in order to ensure that these LEAs are well-prepared to utilize the funds provided in ARP Homeless II;

The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) will use 25 percent of ARP Homeless I funds for State-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels. Examples of activities that NDE plans on using ARP Homeless I State-level activities funding for this purpose includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Landscape of needs of children and youth experiencing homeless across Nevada
 - Partner with evaluators to conduct a statewide comprehensive landscape analysis of students experiencing homelessness to pinpoint areas of need/ strengths and where additional supports are needed, including training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels
- b. Partner with community-based organizations throughout state to assist with the identification and support of youth experiencing homelessness
- c. Partner with national organization to provide technical assistance and capacity building for SEA and LEA leaders on identifying and supporting youth and families experiencing homelessness

The SEA has conducted an ARP Homeless Technical Assistance (TA) Webinar for LEAs where we reviewed ARP Homeless I priorities, requirements, and allowabilities to support LEAs in use of these funds; this included discussing how funds can be used to provide wrap-around services to students. NDE has also coordinated ARP Homeless I Brainstorming Sessions planned to assist with LEA capacity-building. These sessions provide an opportunity for LEAs to discuss innovative strategies for addressing the needs of students experiencing homeless with LEAs; the Education for

Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) State Coordinator serves as a thought-partner to ensure statewide coordination of efforts and that all LEAs are well-prepared to utilize ARP Homeless funds. In addition, regularly scheduled SEA/LEA meetings and office hours support current EHCY LEAs and LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past. This approach allows all subgrantees opportunities to adjust their strategies and activities to prevent supplanting in line with applicable guidance. Moreover, NDE has developed a Path Forward Resource Guide to help support LEAs in their planning of federal relief funds; within this resources, there are suggested strategies on what LEAs and schools can do to provide wrap-around services to students, including students experiencing homelessness.

2. How the SEA has used or will use their funds for State-level activities to provide support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming and plan for and provide wraparound services for summer 2021, in collaboration with State and local agencies and other community-based organizations; and

Due to the State of Nevada's internal approval process timelines, NDE did not have the legal authority to utilize ARP Homeless I state-level activities funding for summer 2021. However, during regularly scheduled SEA/LEA meetings and office hours, NDE continues to support LEAs in ensuring that students experiencing homelessness have the resources they need- including wraparound services and other programming-to thrive educationally.

3. How the SEA has used or will use at least 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for distribution to LEAs in accordance with all requirements of EHCY. This must include the extent to which the SEA has or will use funds to supplement existing EHCY subgrants to allow for more rapid fund distribution to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness, and the extent to which the SEA analyzed and reviewed where there are significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the State (including in LEAs that are not existing EHCY subgrantees), and how it has or will ensure that supports from ARP Homeless I can urgently reach them.

NDE has used 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for distribution to LEAs in accordance with all requirements of EHCY. To allow for the rapid distribution of funds, per federal guidance, the SEA has distributed these funds to current EHCY subgrantees to supplement existing EHCY subgrants. ARP Homeless I funds were distributed to current EHCY subgrantees in the same proportion they received McKinney-Vento awards. These funds are distributed through NDE's online grants management system to allow funds to be available to LEAs in an efficient, streamlined and expedient manner. LEAs must respond to specific questions within the online system before they can be allocated funding to ensure all EHCY requirements are met. NDE has regular communication with its LEA McKinney-Vento Liaisons and has used these meetings to analyze and review with Liaisons where there are significant concentrations

of students and families experiencing homelessness across the State. Further, we held an initial stakeholder engagement meeting with stakeholders who represent students and families experiencing homelessness to assist with this analysis and review. In addition to these regular communications, NDE will also utilize the landscape analysis (described in question (i)(1)) to target areas of need to ensure that supports from ARP Homeless funds can reach the areas where there are significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the State.

ii. For **ARP Homeless II**:

1. How the SEA will use up to 25 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for State-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels, including support to LEAs to plan for and provide wrap-around services, in collaboration with State and local agencies, for school year 2021-2022; and

The SEA will use 25 percent of ARP Homeless II funds for State-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels. NDE's plan for the strategic use of these funds is derived from stakeholder feedback in addition to data and information from the national <u>Voices of Youth Count Report</u> by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. Examples of activities that NDE plans to use ARP Homeless II State-level activities funding for includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Statewide professional learning and training for the SEA, LEAs and schoollevel educators on understanding the McKinney-Vento law/requirements and how to best meet the needs of these students experiencing homelessness
- b. Statewide LEA and school resources for supplemental educational supports for students experiencing homelessness
- c. Development of training and technical assistance materials and translation of those materials into Spanish and other languages spoken by students and families across the state
- d. Continuation of evaluation to measure effectiveness of funds
- e. Maintenance of the expansion of statewide data collection system for students experiencing homelessness
- 2. How the SEA will use at least 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for distribution to LEAs in accordance with the final requirements. This must include a description of how the SEA will distribute funds in accordance with the required formula to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness and the extent to which the SEA has encouraged or will encourage the creation of consortia for those LEAs that may not meet the required minimum formula amount.

The SEA will use 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for distribution to LEAs in accordance with the final requirements. NDE created a spreadsheet with the requisite formula embedded to ensure LEA allocations are in

alignment with the final requirements. LEAs will have access to the funds and will need to submit a plan that meets all necessary requirements for use of these funds before they can officially receive them. In an ARP Homeless TA webinar NDE hosted, LEAs were made aware of the consortia requirement for LEAs whose allocation is less than \$5,000. The LEAs that will be required to join a consortia are Esmeralda County School District, Eureka County School District, Lander County School District and Storey County School District. NDE has offered assistance to these LEAs to help form consortia. In addition, NDE will facilitate meetings, as needed, with these four LEAs to support the formation of consortia. We will keep LEAs abreast of any consortia technical, grants and programmatic requirements and updates throughout the grant award period for these funds.

For both ARP Homeless I and ARP Homeless II:

1. How the SEA will ensure that ARP-HCY supplements the support and services provided with ARP ESSER funds and does not replace the use of ARP ESSER funds to support the needs of students experiencing homelessness;

The SEA will ensure that ARP-HCY supplements the support and services provided with ARP ESSER funds and does not replace the use of ARP ESSER funds to support the needs of students experiencing homelessness. As part of the assurances for ARP-HCY funds, each LEA must certify that they will not use ARP-HCY funds to supplant ARP ESSER funding reserved for students experiencing homelessness. NDE has explained this requirement to LEAs to ensure they are aware and understand exactly what this means. Once ARP ESSER LEA applications are submitted, they will be reviewed by NDE to ensure all requirements have been met; the ARP-HCY LEA applications will follow this same process. NDE will take note of the activities, strategies, and interventions that have been reserved for students experiencing homelessness in each LEA's initial ARP ESSER application. When reviewing subsequent revisions of each LEA's ARP ESSER application, NDE will ensure that no funding which was initially reserved for students experiencing homelessness has been eliminated and replaced with ARP-HCY funds. This regular cross-check will ensure that ARP-HCY supplements the support and services provided with ARP ESSER funds and does not replace the use of ARP ESSER funds to support the needs of students experiencing homelessness.

2. The extent to which the SEA will use its State-level activities funds to award subgrants or contracts to community-based organizations that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations such as rural children and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children and youth with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQ+ youth, and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness, and connect them to educationally-related support and wraparound services; and

NDE will use its State-level activities funds to award subgrants or contracts to community-based organizations that are well-positioned to identify children and youth

Nevada Department of Education Submitted September 7, 2021

experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations. The SEA is in the process of identifying and reaching out to these types of community-based organizations across the state through research and collaboration with LEAs and other state agencies. The SEA has reserved funding from its State-level activities specifically for the purpose of subgranting to and/or contracting with community-based organizations that are focused on supporting historically underserved student populations. NDE plans on providing guidance and technical assistance to these types of community-based organizations and to also have regular communication with them to measure/monitor progress of identifying children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations.

3. How the SEA will encourage LEAs to award contracts to community-based organizations to help identify and support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness.

The SEA will continue to encourage LEAs to award contracts to community-based organizations to help identify and support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness. During its ARP-HCY TA webinar for LEAs, NDE shared information on the importance of LEA community partnerships and encouraged LEAs to award contracts to community-based organizations to assist in identifying and supporting historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness. Further, the SEA has hosted ARP-HCY LEA brainstorming sessions to discuss strategic ways to utilize ARP-HCY funds and further discussed and encouraged LEAs to use their ARP-HCY funding for these purposes. NDE also will continue to encourage LEAs to utilize the Path Forward Resource Guide as a resource to seek partnerships with community-based organizations to assist them with supporting students experiencing homelessness. Over the course of each school year and life of the grant, NDE will continue to encourage LEAs to leverage their community-based organizations as key resources/stakeholders to identify, engage, and support youth experiencing homelessness.